

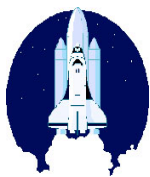


countdown

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Home at last, Endeavour joins Discovery, Atlantis in OPF



◆ Shuttle Update:

After **Endeavour's** ferry flight landing Friday, the shuttle was demated and rolled into the OPF. Endeavour is undergoing

inspections; scheduled work includes removing the tail cone and fuel cell removal.

Work in progress on **Discovery** includes orbiter and tile inspections and aft closeouts. Scheduled for this week is the crew module closeout.

◆ **ISS Update:** NASA Television will provide live coverage of the Dec. 22 spacewalk of Expedition 18 Commander Mike Fincke and Flight Engineer Yuri Lonchakov. Coverage of the spacewalk will begin at 6:30 p.m.

During the spacewalk, Fincke and Lonchakov will deploy and retrieve several Russian experiments on the station's exterior. They also will install a device to measure electromagnetic forces imparted on station hardware as the complex moves through low Earth orbit.

Russian specialists believe electromagnetic interference may have contributed to past problems on the Soyuz spacecraft's pyrotechnic bolts, which allow sections of the vehicle to separate properly during its return to Earth.

The spacewalk will start at approximately 7:15 p.m. and last six hours. Expedition 18 Flight Engineer Sandra Magnus will monitor the spacewalk from inside the station.

■ **Share Season's Greetings with Space Station Crew** — Soaring high above Earth, the crew of the International

Space Station has beamed down season's greetings that began airing Dec. 12 on NASA TV. The public can return the extraterrestrial good will and send greetings to the crew by visiting:

<http://www.nasa.gov/externalflash/postcard>.

The e-mailed greetings can be sent through Jan. 5.

■ Visitor Complex Holiday Shopping Discounts for KSC Employees —

Now through Dec. 24, all badged KSC and CCAFS employees receive a 30-percent discount at KSC Visitor Complex retail locations including The Space Shop at the main Visitor Complex and the gift shop at the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame. Select from hundreds of space-themed items like ornaments, toys, apparel, jewelry, books, mugs, mission merchandise and more.

The Space Shop at the Visitor Complex will remain open until 7 p.m. Wednesday. For the remainder of the month, The Space Shop will be open until 5:30 p.m.

To visit The Space Shop, present your badge at a group will-call ticket window (1 - 4) for entry. To receive your discount, please present your badge at the beginning of the transaction. For more information, call 449-4400.

■ **O&C Blood Drive** — The blood drive will be held Wednesday, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. You will get free diabetes screening when you give blood, plus all blood donors will receive:

*\$10 Publix gift card.

*50-percent-off admission to Universal Studios or Islands of Adventure!

NASA plans live coverage of spacewalk by ISS crew

*50-percent-off admission to Ice at the Gaylord Palms of Orlando.

**Free Dunkin Donuts coffee coupon.

* 50-percent-off adult haircut at Fantastic Sams.

* Free MVP service with purchase of regular haircut at SportsClips.

*LaBella Spa \$10 gift card (while supplies last at participating locations).

■ Breaking the Cycle of Stress —

The 3.5-hour classes start at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Jan. 21 and Jan. 22 in OSB II/room 5109. All learners must register at: <https://saturn.nasa.gov>. The deadline for Jan. 21 is Jan. 14 and for Jan. 22 is Jan. 15.

With this course, you can gain clarity of mind and an increased capacity to meet and overcome life's challenges. This popular training is at the cutting edge of stress reduction offering a step-by-step cognitive approach for getting at the root cause of stress. It is a powerful blend of breathing, relaxation, and meditation techniques clinically proven at Harvard and MIT to reduce blood pressure, reduce or eliminate chronic pain, and increase mental focus.

The classes are open to all KSC employees. All contractors will be wait-listed pending seat availability.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 9 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.l.barrett@nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 867-2815. You can also find PDF editions of *Countdown* on the Web at: http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html.